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## Czech Republic

### FAIRS Country Report

### Annual

### 2007

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**Report Highlights:**

Sections Updated: I. Food Laws, III. Packaging and Container Requirements, V. Pesticide and Other Contaminants, VIII. Copyright and/or Trademark Laws, Appendices I-II listing of professional contacts. It is recommended to read the EU Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards report (E47056 <http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/fairs.html>) because the Czech Republic, a member of the European Union, follows the EU directives and regulations.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Annual Report  
Prague [EZ1]  
[EZ]

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Disclaimer: This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/FAS (in Vienna, Austria) for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. **FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

## SECTION I. FOOD LAWS

On May 1, 2004, the Czech Republic became a member of the European Union (EU), and all EU Regulations and Decisions apply directly. An exporter from a third country must be familiar with Czech food laws and EU's regulations and decisions, which overrule Czech legislation. Regulations apply for a member country immediately, but an individual is responsible for complying with the regulation as soon as it appears in the Czech language in the EU's Official Journal or in the Czech Collection of laws. A food industry area, not regulated by the EU, so called "non-harmonized" area, may be regulated by every member state; however, this regulation cannot restrict free movement of goods. According to Directive 98/34/EC the European Commission sends notifications of legislation proposals by a member state to other member states for their comments. This report provides summary information on the Czech food legislation.

For FAIRS report for the whole EU, please look at recent EU report:

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200707/146291677.doc>

All EU regulations and directives can be obtained at the following web page:

<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/>

All acts in Czech language can be found on the Ministry of Interior web page: [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz)

The Czech food legislation reflects EU Parliament and Council Regulation 178/2002. As of January 2006, four EU Parliament and Council Regulations will come back into force in the Czech Republic and are jointly referred to as the "hygienic pack":

- Regulation 852/2004 on hygienic conditions of food production, procession and distribution
- Regulation 853/2004 on products of animal origin
- Regulation 854/2004 on controls of products of animal origin
- Directive 2002/99/ES laying down the animal health rules governing the production, processing, distribution and introduction of products of animal origin for human consumption
- Directive 2004/41/ES repealing certain Directives concerning food hygiene and health conditions for the production and placing on the market of certain products of animal origin intended for human consumption and amending Council Directives 89/662/EEC and 92/118/EEC and Council Decision 95/408/EC

In addition to these regulations following regulations are in force:

- Regulation 882/2004 on controls of food and feed products
- Regulation 183/2005 on feed hygiene

- Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs, applicable from 1 January 2006, lays down food safety criteria for certain important foodborne bacteria, their toxins and metabolites, such as salmonella, listeria, *Enterobacter sakazakii*, staphylococcal enterotoxins and histamine in specific foodstuffs. These criteria are applicable to products placed on the market during their entire shelf-life. In addition, the Regulation sets down certain process hygiene criteria to indicate the correct functioning of the production process.
  - Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 of 5 December 2005 laying down implementing measures for certain products under Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and for the organisation of official controls under Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, derogating from Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004
  - Commission Regulation (EC) No 2075/2005 of 5 December 2005 laying down specific rules on official controls for *Trichinella* in meat
  - Commission Regulation (EC) No 2076/2005 of 5 December 2005 laying down transitional arrangements for the implementation of Regulations (EC) No 853/2004, (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004
- (+amendments regulations 1662/2006; 1663/2006; 1664/2006, 1665/2006; 1666/2006)

Most important laws and regulations regarding food:

- Act on foodstuffs and tobacco products 110/1997 (Food Act)
- Act on viticulture and wine growing 321/2004 (Wine Act)
- Act 166/1999 on veterinary care (Veterinary Act)
- Act on feeds 91/1996
- Act on GMO 78/2004
- Act 242/2000 on organic production
- Acts on protection of public health 20/1966 and 258/2000
- Act on Czech Agricultural and Food Inspection Authority 146/2002
- Act on Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture (CISTA) 147/2002
- Act on state control 552/1991
- Act on State Phytosanitary Administration 326/2004
- Act on consumer protection 634/1992

## A. Food Act

Food Act 110/1997 is amendmended by acts: 166/1999, 119/2000, 306/2000, 146/2002, 131/2003, 274/2003, 94/2004, 316/2004, 558/2004, 392/2005, 444/2005 and 229/2006.

Act 456/2004 summarizes Act 110/1997 and its amendments 119/2000, 306/2000, 146/2002, 131/2003, 274/2003, 94/2004 and 316/2004. However, it does not have any legal force.

The act regulates requirements related to:

- hygiene and sanitary condition of food production
- general requirement related to food, additives, foods for special diet, irradiation of food

- classification of slaughter animals
- packaging of food
- food labeling
- placing food on the market
- transportation of food and tobacco products
- the system of official control of food
- penalties for not meeting the requirements

Basically, imported food products have the same status as domestically produced products according to food act 110/1997 and amendments and decrees.

Ministry of Agriculture decrees connected to the Food Act 110/1997:

- 329/1997 amended by 418/2000 on starch and products from starch, pulses, oilseeds
- 330/1997 amended by 91/2000 and 78/2003 on tea, coffee and products
- 331/1997 amended by 419/2000 on spices, salt, dehydrated products, additives, mustard
- 333/1997 amended by 93/2000 and 268/2006 on pasta, bakery products
- 335/1997 amended by 45/2000, 57/2003 and 289/2004 on non-alcoholic beverages and concentrates, fruit wines, other wines, beer, spirits
- 147/1998 amended by 196/2002 and 161/2004 on critical points (HACCP)
- 326/2001 amended by 264/2003 on products of animal origin (meat and products, fish and seafood, eggs and products from eggs)
- 76/2003 amended by 43/2005 on natural sweeteners, honey, cocoa, chocolate, confectionary products
- 77/2003 amended by 124/2004 and 78/2005 on milk and dairy products, ice cream, oils and fats
- 157/2003 amended by 650/2004 on fresh fruit and vegetables, processed fruit and vegetables, dried fruit and nuts, mushrooms, potatoes and products
- 344/2003 on tobacco products
- 194/2004 amended by 324/2005 on product classification
- 211/2004 amended by 611/2004, 238/2005 and 459/2005 on testing methods and sampling
- 212/2004 amended by 320/2004 on stock information and reporting methods
- 113/2005 amended by 368/2005, 497/2005 and 101/2007 on food labeling
- 366/2005 on requirements related to some of the frozen foodstuffs

Ministry of Health decrees connected to the Food Act 110/1997:

- 296/1997 on epidemiological risks in foodstuffs
- 273/2000 amended by 106/2002 and 44/2004 on maximum limits of veterinary medications and biologically active substances used in the animal production in foodstuffs
- 54/2002 amended by 318/2003, 270/2005 and 514/2006 on identity and purity of additives
- 475/2002 on certification for mushrooms
- 54/2004 on foods for special diet
- 133/2004 on food irradiation
- 158/2004 amended by 68/2005 and 400/2006 on maximum residue limits for pesticides in foodstuffs
- 275/2004 amended by 404/2006 on packaged water
- 304/2004 amended by 152/2005 and 431/2005 on conditions of using food additives
- 305/2004 on contaminants and toxins
- 450/2004 on nutritional value
- 446/2004 on food supplements
- 447/2004 on aromatic additives

## B. Wine Act

Act on Viticulture and Wine Growing 321/2004 defines wine appellations, conditions for opening new vineyards, wine production, sets requirements for production, stocks registration, labeling, and defines wine varieties. Conditions for import are in the European Council Regulation 883/2001.

There are three decrees connected to the wine act: decree 323/2004 amended by 437/2005 specification of the wine act, 324/2004 on wine appellations and 97/2006 on support of wine sales and development of the tourism in the area of the viticulture.

The Czech Republic is included in the wine-growing zone A, which means a transitional period for full harmonization with the EU wine sector will be applied. The first exception is for vineyard plantings up to 2008 in order to increase vineyard areas to the level of 1989, and the second exception concerns the introduction of domestic seedlings on the Czech market until 2011.

The following are traditional varieties of grapes for white wines: "Veltinske" (Veltliner 13% of total vineyard area), "Muller Thurgau" (17%), "Ryzlink Vlassky" (Welschriesling 13%), "Ryzlink Rynsky" (Rheinriesling 5%).

The following are traditional varieties of grapes for red wines: "Svatovavrinecke" (Saint Laurent 10%), "Frankovka" (Lemberger, Blaufrankisch 5%), "Zweigeltrebe" (2%), "Modry Portugal" (Blauer Portugieser 1%), "Andre" (1%).

## C. Veterinary Act

Veterinary act 166/1999 amended by acts 29/2000, 154/2000, 102/2001, 120/2002, 76/2002, 320/2002, 131/2003, 316/2004, 444/2005, 48/2006, 309/2002 and 186/2006 deals with animal health issues, transportation of animals, slaughter house conditions, conditions for meat processors, animal diseases, veterinary control, and safety of foodstuffs of animal origin.

The following decrees are connected to the veterinary act:

- 201/2003 amended by 651/2004 and 4/2007 on poultry and game
- 202/2003 amended by 375/2003, 201/2004, 652/2004, 232/2005 and 4/2007 on fresh meat and products
- 203/2003 amended by 638/2004 and 4/2007 on milk and dairy products
- 290/2003
- 291/2003 amended by 232/2005 and 375/2006
- 295/2003
- 296/2003 amended by 610/2004, 330/2005, 8/2007 and 134/2007
- 298/2003
- 299/2003 amended by 356/2004, 389/2004, 214/2005 and 36/2007
- 329/2003
- 372/2003 amended by 164/2005
- 373/2003 amended by 164/2005 and 375/2006
- 374/2003 amended by 232/2005 and 498/2005
- 375/2003 amended by 639/2004 and 375/2006 specifying some requirements in Act 166/1999 on products of animal origin
- 376/2003 amended by 259/2005 and 375/2006
- 377/2003 amended by 259/2005
- 378/2003 amended by 122/2005

- 379/2003 amended by 375/2006
- 380/2003 amended by 155/2006
- 381/2003 amended by 201/2004 and 375/2006 on fish and other products of aquaculture
- 382/2003 amended by 260/2005 and 156/2006
- 202/2004
- 356/2004
- 389/2004
- 610/2004

#### **D. Organic Production Act**

Act on organic production 242/2000 sets conditions for registration, requirements on production, labeling, import, and control system. Importers of bio products (products from organic farming) must deliver a certificate of organic origin of the product to the control body and to the person who places product on the market (e.g. retailer).

In February 2000, an equivalency agreement between the Czech Republic and the EU was established. According to Commission Regulation 2589/2001, Czech Republic appeared on the list of third countries allowed to export to the EU. All Czech organic products are treated equally in the EU according to Council Regulation 2092/91.

Commission Regulation 1788/2001 from September 2001 set conditions for import certificates from third countries based on Article 11 of Council Regulation 2092/91 on organic products.

#### **E. Food Law Enforcement**

Basic EU legal regulation for official controls on foodstuffs and feedingstuffs, animal health and animal welfare is Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

According to Food Act 110/1997 four government bodies are responsible for control and enforcement of laws connected to food:

Under the Ministry of Health:

- Offices of Public Health Protection, Act 258/2000 on protection of public health

Under the Ministry of Agriculture:

- State Veterinary Administration with 14 regional offices, Veterinary act 166/1999
- The Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority (CAFIA), Act 146/2002 on CAFIA
- Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture (CISTA), Act 147/2002

On April 1, 2005 the new Food Authority was established as a part of the organisational structure of the Ministry of Agriculture according to government resolution No. 986/2004. Its main task is to cover the entire food related area (production, trade, legislation, food safety and quality). The related tasks are to carry out the nation's food industry strategy as defined by the Ministry of Agriculture for 2004 – 2013 and Strategy to Assure Food Safety in the Czech Republic after accession to the EU adopted by Government Resolution No. 1277/2004.

### **SECTION II. LABELING REQUIREMENTS**

#### **A. General Requirements**

Food law 110/1997 (paragraphs 6,7, and 8) including all its amendments (list in part I.) and directive 113/2005 provide general rules for food labeling. Special commodity directives (listed in part I.) provide more detailed information for labeling of these commodities.

1. Information that must appear on the label:

- name of the product and category (e.g. dried, frozen, concentrated, smoked, etc.)
- name and address of producer or importer
- country of origin
- net weight
- expiration date: day/month/year (if it is less than three months a year does not have to be listed, if it is over three months a day does not have to be listed); exceptions that do not require expiration date: fresh fruit/vegetables, spirits, wine, bakery products with usual shelf life of 24 hours, salt, natural sweeteners besides powder sugar, chewing gum, and vinegar
- storage conditions, where necessary, whether they can influence duration of the food (e.g. frozen fish keep in -6C a week, -12C a month, -18C 12 months), if conditions change after opening a special expiration date for after opening has to be on the label (e.g. use by 5/05, after opening keep refrigerated for 1 month)
- instructions for use
- list of ingredients by the amount in food, if some ingredient consists of others that has over 25% share on total product weight, a detailed list of ingredients with percentage has to be in brackets following the general category (e.g. dried soup: dehydrated meat 30%, pasta 20%, vegetables 30% (carrots 10%, parsley 10%, onion 10%), salt 5% etc.), if salt's share on total product weight exceeds 2.5% its content has to be in percent.
- information on irradiation of food
- if the products is for special diet it has to be on the label
- quality category

Labeling of novel foods must be in compliance with EU regulations: Regulation of the European Parliament and Council 258/1997, Commission Regulation 49/2000, Commission Regulation 50/2000, and Commission Regulation 1830/2003 on traceability and labeling.

2. The label has to be in Czech language, and must be visible, legible and understandable.

3. Standard U.S. label is not sufficient for being placed on the Czech market.

4. Stick-on labels in Czech are widely used on imported products; the text on the original and Czech translation has to be identical.

5. The Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority (CAFIA) and the State Veterinary Administration are the authorities for enforcing labeling requirements. CAFIA takes into account a general appearance of the label, if it is not in any way misleading. Czech label must be on the product for customs clearance, in other words before it enters the market.

6. Food samples do not have to be labeled. Products for the food sector have to be labeled like products for the end consumer, but not their packaging, which only has to carry name of the product, expiration date, quality category, irradiation information. Other information from the label on products inside this package has to be in the documentation.

7. Czech recommended daily (RDI) intake is treated in directive 54/2004 product for special diet and directive 304/2004 on food additives.

8. There are no special shelf life or country-of-origin requirements.

9. The Ministry of Health may grant an exception for use of an additive that is not listed in decree 304/2004 on additives.

## B. Nutritional Labeling Requirements

Decree 113/2005 amended by decrees 368/2005, 497/2005 and 4/2007 on labeling of food also covers requirements regarding nutritional labeling. It lists claims that are forbidden to appear on the label:

- this product is a source of all necessary nutrients unless it concerns food for special diet
- regular foodstuffs do not contain necessary quantities of nutrients, which is present in this product
- this product has a higher or special nutritional value as a result of use of additives without a regular nutritional testing
- this products has special characteristics because similar food has the same characteristics
- this food is appropriate for prevention or cure of some health problem unless it is a product for special diet
- words containing "eco", "bio" unless the products comes from organic farming
- words "home made", "fresh", "live", "natural", "real", "rational" unless this word is part of the name of a product category according to special regulation
- food for special diet unless it was approved by the Ministry of Health for this purpose

Decree 450/2004 on labeling of nutritional information includes labeling of nutritional value such as content of protein, carbohydrates, fat, fibers, minerals and vitamins. It contains a list of recommended daily intake (RDI) of vitamins and minerals, requirements on health statements such as "could cause allergic reaction" etc., methods for setting nutritional value, information on calculation of total dietary fiber etc.

1. Nutritional labeling is mandatory.
2. Claims such as light are permitted on drinks and tobacco products under certain conditions.
3. Implied claims such as "you would not believe that something so light could taste so good" are not strictly forbidden but are not recommended since they are misleading.
4. Prohibited health claims are listed above, otherwise they are not recommended.

## C. Labeling of Organic Products

Products of plant and animal origin certified by a control body have on the label word "bio", identification code of the control body and if possible a graphic symbol. Products that are not certified may not use word "bio" on the label. In case of transitional period (lasting at least 12 months), product of plant origin has on the label "product from transitional period into organic farming" in letters smaller than in words "ecological farming".

Foods containing at least 95% of bio products and bio additives and that are certified by a control body have on the label word "bio", identification number of a control body, and a graphic symbol if possible.

Labels of bio products may not contain any claim that the product has higher nutritional value or any other health claim.

## D. Labeling of Food for Special Diet

Decree 54/2004 lists foods for special diet (baby food, low sodium diet, low calories diet, low protein content, supplements for sportsmen, etc.) and conditions for labeling. Labeling on food for special diet may not contain health claims, words "diet" or "dia" unless it in connection with a special diet.

#### E. Labeling of Food and Feed Containing, Consisting or Produced from Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

Czech act 78/2004 and decree 209/2004 on handling GMOs sets the conditions for contained use, field tests, placing on the market, and requirements for applications for registration, risk assessment, labeling requirements, and a plan for handling accidents. The Act 78/2004 implements Directive [2001/18/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220/EEC. Amendment of the above mentioned Act is valid since 2005 – the Act 346/2005.

EU regulation No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council on genetically modified food and feed lay down Community procedures for the authorization and supervision of genetically modified (GM) food and feed and also lay down provisions for the labeling of GM food and feed.

EU regulation No 1830/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the traceability and labeling of genetically modified organisms and traceability of food and feed products produced from GMOs and amending Directive 2001/18/EC. This Regulation provides a framework for the traceability of products consisting of or containing GMOs, and food and feed produced from GMOs, with the objectives of facilitating accurate labeling monitoring the effects on the environment and, where appropriate, on health, and the implementation of the appropriate risk management measures including, if necessary, withdrawal of products.

- Even products with no detectable protein (e.g. oil) must be labeled if they are produced from GMOs. The threshold for labeling is > 0.9% of particular GMO. Labeling must contain words "genetically modified" or "produced from genetically modified soy/corn etc." as part

of the ingredient list concerned with label/tag. Also unique identifiers of particular GMOs should be included on the label/tag.

### **SECTION III. PACKAGING AND CONTAINER REGULATIONS**

A. Act 477/2001 on packaging amended by 274/2003, 94/2004, 237/2004, 257/2004, 444/2005 and 66/2006 and decrees, specifies requirements on packaging materials:

- 116/2002 on labeling of refundable packaging materials
- 641/2004 on methods of registration and evidence of packaging

Government regulation 111/2002 sets refund levels for various refundable materials. There are no special packaging requirements or container size requirements.

B. Companies that put food in packages are obligated to collect used packaging according to Act 477/2001. The Act sets criteria for "authorized packaging material companies" that are responsible for collection and use of used materials. Attachment two of Act 477/2001 specifies conditions for recyclable materials and then system of collection.

C. Decree 38/2001 amended by 186/2003, 207/2006 and 551/2006 on conditions for hygiene of products that come into contact with food sets detailed requirements for

packaging materials for food products and specifies act 258/2000 on public health protection. The decree lists maximum limits of chemical substances that may be used in the packaging material, so that it does not contaminate food.

#### **SECTION IV. FOOD ADDITIVE REGULATIONS**

Three decrees regulate use of food additives: 54/2002, amended by 318/2003, 270/2005 and 514/2006 on identity and purity of additives, 304/2004 on kinds and conditions for use of additives in food and 447/2004 on kinds and conditions for use of aroma essences in food. Authorities keep both positive lists with allowed additives and a negative list with products that are not additives (e.g. vitamins, minerals, pesticides, etc.). Both lists are in the above-mentioned decrees in Czech only.

If an imported product contains an additive, which is not on the list, Ministry of Health may give an exception after testing the product by the State Health Institute.

#### **SECTION V. PESTICIDE AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS**

The maximum content of toxins, myco-toxins, metals, histamines and similar substances, which can be found in food products and other conditions connected to health standards of food products are regulated by decree 305/2004.

The pesticide residue list is positive. Permitted pesticides and their limits are stated in decree 158/2004 on maximum residue limits for pesticides in foodstuffs. According to Act 326/2004 on State Phytosanitary Administration (SPA) (amended by 626/2004, 444/2005 and 131/2006) and decree 329/2004 on plant protection products (pesticides) (amended by 371/2006) all allowed pesticides must be in the central register of the State Phytosanitary Administration. Act 326/2004 also sets requirements for plant protection with regard to food production.

A list of approved pesticides can be found on the web page of SPA: [www.srs.cz](http://www.srs.cz) (on the left side "register").

Another important decree connected to contaminants is decree 273/2000 amended by 106/2002 and 44/2004 on maximum limits of veterinary medications and biologically active substances used in the animal production in foodstuffs.

#### **SECTION VI. OTHER REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

##### **A. Registration**

According to the Food Act 110/97, all food processors and importers have to be registered by the Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority (CAFIA) and products of animal origin also have to be registered by the State Veterinary Administration. According to the Act on CAFIA 146/2002 and the Veterinary Act 166/1999, the CAFIA or SVA must visit the company and take samples of products a few days after registration. If products comply with the legislation requirements, CAFIA or SVA pay for the samples. If products do not comply, CAFIA or SVA do not reimburse the producer or importer for samples. There is no laboratory fee.

Food products imported from third countries (outside the EU), do not have to be certified with an exception for fresh fruit and vegetables, dried fruit and nuts, and mushrooms. These products have to be certified by CAFIA.

## B. Testing and Certification

Products imported from the U.S. do not need to be tested (apart from fresh fruit and dried fruit and nuts). However, if a product contains over 0.9% of biotech content, it must be labeled. Most retailers require a certificate from an importer that states the product is "GMO free" (less than 0.9%, without a label). The importers of U.S. products must take a sample of each product to the Research Institute for Plant Production and consult with specialists regarding which ingredients could contain biotech content. The importer must then take "suspicious" products to the Central Institute for Control and Testing in Agriculture for tests on biotech content. The process takes 1-2 months and costs 5,000 CZK (\$192) per product. If a product contains less than 0.9% biotech content it will be granted a certificate that states it does not contain "GMOs", if the content is over 0.9% biotech content and if the biotech product is approved, the product must be labeled. Various voluntary certificates (HACCP, ISO, export certificate for the U.S. market – veterinary products) are often used as marketing tools.

## C. Inspection

The Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority made 23,076 random inspections in 2004, out of which 54% were in retail, 38% in production, and 7% in warehouses. 4,310 samples did not meet requirements, out of which 69% were imported products and 31% were domestic products.

The following samples did not meet requirements:

- microbiological requirements 917 samples
- residues 195
- labeling 1,548
- quality analytical requirements 676
- quality sensor requirements 1,486

Samples that did not meet requirements by commodity:

- fresh vegetables 649 samples
- fresh fruit 469
- confectionary products 455
- wine 354
- meat and products 386
- deli products 321

## SECTION VII. OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS

All specific acts and degrees are discussed in relevant sections.

## SECTION VIII. COPYRIGHT AND/OR OTHER TRADEMARK LAWS

Trademarks and brand names are protected by the following acts:

- 14/1993 on industrial property protection (amended by 417/2004)
- 441/2003 on trademarks (amended by 501/2004 and 221/2006) and decree 97/2004 on trademarks
- 452/2001 on protection of geographical location indication (amended by 131/2003, 501/2004 and 221/2006)
- 206/2000 on protection of biotechnology inventions
- 408/2000 on protection of rights to plant varieties (amended by 147/2002, 149/2002, 219/2003, 377/2005, 554/2005 and 444/2005)

Trademarks can be registered at the Industrial Property Institute (contact in the list of contacts).

**SECTION IX. IMPORT PROCEDURES**

EU's import regulations apply for import to the Czech Republic. EU's requirements for import of products of veterinary origin may be found in English on the web page of the State Veterinary Administration:

[http://www.svscr.cz/dokumenty/eu/dovoz/dovoz\\_en.html](http://www.svscr.cz/dokumenty/eu/dovoz/dovoz_en.html)

Tariff schedule of the EU applies for products imported to the Czech Republic. The rates are on this web page:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/taxation\\_customs/dds/cgi-bin/tarchap?Lang=EN](http://europa.eu.int/comm/taxation_customs/dds/cgi-bin/tarchap?Lang=EN)

Products can be cleared through customs by entering the EU (e.g. Hamburg) or in the Czech Republic. Both systems are very quick. Specialized companies take care of the import procedures for importers.

**APPENDIX I. GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS**

## USDA/FAS:

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## Czech Government Contacts:

## Trade Policy:

Ministry of Agriculture  
Trade and 3<sup>rd</sup> Countries Relations Department  
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117 05 Praha 1  
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[www.mze.cz](http://www.mze.cz)

## Food Safety:

Ministry of Agriculture  
Food Safety, Environment Development  
and Pollution Prevention Department  
Ms. Klara Zuzankova  
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Wine Legislation:

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Plant Production Commodities Department  
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Fax: +420-222-812-367  
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Legislation on Biotechnology:

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Environmental Risks Department  
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Exceptions in Food Additives:

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Center for Hygiene in Food Chain  
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**APPENDIX II. OTHER IMPORT SPECIALIST CONTACTS**

Plant Health and Pesticides:

State Phytosanitary Administration  
Department for Plant Protection Products  
Mr. Stepan Kuzma  
Head of Department  
Zemedelska 1a  
613 00 Brno  
Tel: +420-545-137-039  
Fax: +420-545-137-031  
E-mail: [stepan.kuzma@svs.cz](mailto:stepan.kuzma@svs.cz)  
[www.svs.cz](http://www.svs.cz)

Animal Health, Meat Inspection and Import Certificates:

State Veterinary Administration of the Czech Republic  
Dr. Milan Malena  
General Director (CVO)  
Selzska 7  
120 56 Praha 2  
Tel: +420-227-010-142 or 143  
Fax: +420-227-010-191  
E-mail: [m.malena@svscr.cz](mailto:m.malena@svscr.cz)  
[www.svscr.cz](http://www.svscr.cz)

Food Inspection (other than veterinary):

Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority  
Department for Control, Laboratories and Certification  
Mr. Martin Klanica  
Head of Department  
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Fax: +420-543-540-210  
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GMO Product Certification:

Central Institute for Control and Testing in Agriculture (UKZUZ)  
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Control and Certification of Organic (Bio) Products:

KEZ (Control of Ecological Farming)  
Certification Department  
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Head of Department

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